

Serial No. 10/772,861
13 January 2005 Reply to
18 October 2004 Office Action

REMARKS

Claims 12-18 are pending in the present application. Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), and claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 12 and 16 have been amended. Claim 10 and 11 have been cancelled.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. 102(b)/ 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

In regard to these rejections, the relevant claims have been cancelled, making these rejections. Applicants respectfully submit that they do not acquiesce to the rejections or any positions taken by the Examiner with respect to the rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Claims 12 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of claim 10. Accordingly, claims 12-18 should be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

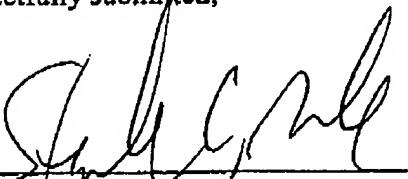
CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application is believed to be warranted and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned if he has any questions or issues with respect to the above amendment.

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Respectfully submitted,

By:


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Dated: 1/13/05

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